

# EUROPEAN PATENT OFFICE

## Patent Abstracts of Japan

PUBLICATION NUMBER : 11185028  
PUBLICATION DATE : 09-07-99

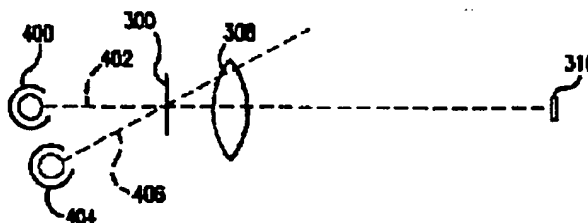
APPLICATION DATE : 21-09-98  
APPLICATION NUMBER : 10265853

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INVENTOR : OSCAR R HERERA E;

INT.CL. : G06T 1/00 G01B 11/30

TITLE : METHOD FOR DETECTING ARTIFACT  
ON SURFACE OF TRANSMISSIVE  
IMAGE MEDIUM



ABSTRACT : PROBLEM TO BE SOLVED: To detect an artifact on the surface of a medium by measuring the intensity of light in a second optical path to change the direction from the second optical path and a first optical path at a point on the medium and identifying the measured intensity in comparison with a prescribed threshold value.

SOLUTION: Light beams from a first white light source 400 are passed along with a first optical path 402, and a point or line on a film 300 is focused with a photodetector array 310 through an optical system 308. Second light beams from a second light source 404 are passed through the image of the film 300 along with a second optical path 406. When the light along with the second optical path 406 collides with the artifact or defect on the film 300, one part of light is scattered, reflected, diffracted to change the direction and converged to the photodetector array 310. When the intensity of light passed through that point along with the second optical path exceeds the prescribed threshold value, that point is identified as the artifact.

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